

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

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UNCLAS NEW DELHI 18140

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAIR, ECRP, IN
SUBJECT: FAA INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT INFORMATION MANUAL: INDIA
ENTRY

REF: STATE 289518

1. CURRENT INDIAN REQUIREMENTS FOR TRAFFIC-CARRYING NON-SCHEDULED COMMERCIAL FLIGHTS ARE ACCURATELY STATED IN PARAGRAPH WHICH WAS ADDED BY OCTOBER AMENDMENT TO INDIA ENTRY IN IFIM. THIS IS NOT, HOWEVER, EXPANSION OF PREVIOUS REQUIREMENTS. RATHER IT REFLECTS LIBERALIZATION OF CHARTER RULES ADOPTED IN 1972. GOI DOES NOT CONSIDER THEM TO BE "ENTRY" REQUIREMENTS FOR AIRCRAFT BUT RATHER REQUIREMENTS FOR THE EXERCISE OF TRAFFIC RIGHTS.

2. AERONAUTICAL INFORMATION CIRCULAR NO. 21/68 OF JUNE 18, 1968, WHICH IS BASIS FOR OPERATION OF NON-SCHEDULED FOREIGN AVIATION IN INDIA, HAD REQUIRED PASSENGER AND CARGO CHARTER OPERATORS WISHING TO LIFT TRAFFIC IN INDIA TO OBTAIN "NO OBJECTION" CERTIFICATE FROM AIR INDIA (INDIAN AIRLINES FOR FLIGHTS CARRYING TRAFFIC TO NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES), AS WELL AS USE AIR INDIA (OR INDIAN AIRLINES WHEN APPROPRIATE) SERVICES IN "ARRANGING, ENGAGING, AND BOOKING." THE TRAFFIC. CONDITIONS FOR CARRYING IN-BOUND TRAFFIC WERE LEFT FOR DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION TO ESTABLISH; CLEARLY PRESUMPTION WAS EQUALLY AS UNCLASSIFIED

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NEGATIVE THAT CHARTERS WOULD BE ALLOWED TO COMPETE WITH NATIONAL CARRIERS' SCHEDULED SERVICE.

3. PRINCIPAL FACTOR IN GOI'S DECISION TO AMEND REGULATIONS GOVERNING FOREIGN CHARTERS IN 1972 WAS ITS DESIRE TO ALLOW FOR GROWING TOURISM POTENTIAL. CHARTERS HAVE NOT REACHED SIGNIFICANT

NUMBERS, HOWEVER, ESPECIALLY IN U.S. ROUTE WHERE EXTREMELY LOW NEW YORK-NEW DELHI EXCURSION FARE HAS APPARENTLY KEPT COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE WITH SCHEDULED CARRIERS. DGCA HAS ALSO PROVEN MORE WILLING TO PERMIT UPLIFT OF CARGO FROM INDIA BY U.S. CHARTER OPERATORS DURING PART YEAR WHEN BOOM IN INDIAN GARMENT EXPORTS HAS CLOGGED AIRPORTS.

4. DGCA REQUIREMENTS FOR ENTRY AND FOR EXERCISE OF TRAFFIC RIGHTS ARE NOT ONLY REGULATIONS AFFECTING OPERATIONS OF TOUR CHARTERS IN INDIA. DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM ON JUNE 1, 1976, DISTRIBUTED NOTE TO TRAVEL AGENCIES AND INTERNATIONAL AIRLINES ENTITLED "INSTRUCTIONS ON TERMINATING/TRANSIT TOURIST CHARTERS AND STUDENT CHARTERS." INSTRUCTIONS COVER SUCH ITEMS AS LENGTH OF STAY, FULLY OCCUPIED ITINERARY, PAYMENT OF COSTS IN FOREIGN EXCHANGE, NOTICE TO AIR INDIA, AND INELIGIBILITY OF "ETHNIC INDIANS" TO USE TOURIST CHARTERS (THE SUBJECT OF PREVIOUS EXCHANGES WITH THE DEPARTMENT). A COPY OF THIS NOTE IS BEING POUCHED TO EB/OA/AVP.SCHNEIDER

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